

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2005

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on January 24, 2005 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Davalos called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Davalos
Commissioner Creary
Commissioner Gravely
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Mummey
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Davalos' report is summarized as followed:

- She participated in activities of the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council and Community Advisory Park meeting and attended a peace rally.
- She announced the March 8, 2005 Sixth Women's Strike on pay equity, housing and transportation and announced the National Heart Day Health Fair at the Hollywood Palladium.
- She commented on the films *Vera Drake* and *The Woodsman* and distributed an article on "Preventing Lung Cancer in Women."
- She requested Commissioners to follow the Commission's trust fund guidelines when submitting agenda requests.
- She purchased Commissioner Perkins' book *Sisters at the Well* for the Commission's library.
- Noting the recent lack of a quorum at meetings, she suggested the Commission look at scheduling only one meeting a month. Commissioners then agendaized this discussion for a future meeting.
- She offered to pay for Commissioners who wish to attend the Young African American Women's Conference on Saturday, February 26, 2005 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Rodriguez encouraged Commissioners to sponsor scholarship recipients who may wish to attend.

(Commissioner Duba joined the meeting during the report at 10:19 a.m. and Commissioner Perkins joined the meeting during the report at 10:25 a.m.)

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- The Susan Komen Foundation Race for the Cure is February 27, 2005 near the Rose Bowl. Call 213-347-2552 to sign up for a team.
- Commission staff sent a \$200 donation for the memorial services for Lila Morgan to Lisa Frasier, \$100 from the President's Fund and \$100 from the Commissioners' Fund. Services for Lila Morgan will be in late February.
- The ACCW Quarterly Meeting will be hosted by the L.A. City Commission on the Status of Women on Friday, March 11, 2005 at City Hall. All Commissioners are invited to attend.
- Jana Cooley has replaced Raine Ritchey as the women's deputy of the Fifth District.
- Commissioners were requested to submit mileage and parking claims to Gabe Alexander or Steve Erickson. Audra Galang will no longer be processing these claims.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and duly carried, with Commissioner Mummey abstaining, the minutes of December 13, 2004 were approved.

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Duba, and duly carried, with Commissioners Jernigan, Gravely, and Mummey abstaining, the minutes of January 10, 2005 were approved.

RATIFY SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND REPORT ON SCHOLARSHIP RECEPTION

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Mummey, and unanimously carried, the Commission ratified the twenty 2004 scholarship recipients.

Commissioners discussed the process for selecting recipients, including concerns that the recipients reflect the ethnic diversity of the County. Nyla Jefferson, Executive Office, informed them that ethnicity and race were not indicated on the application and not part of the selection criteria.

Khanh Nguyen, Executive Office, offered suggestions for addressing the diversity issue.

President Davalos requested Commissioners to participate in committee work and requested staff to send out an updated committee roster.

Commissioners requested staff to note excused and unexcused absences on all commissioner attendance reports.

CLARIFY AND REFINE THE WORDING OF THE CONDOLENCY POLICY IN THE TRUST FUND CRITERIA

Staff informed Commissioners that Vice President Lesser had recommended version #2 of the condolence policy.

A motion by Commissioner Perkins to approve version #2 of the condolence policy, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Lewis and Perkins

Noes: Commissioners Creary, Duba, Jernigan, Mummey, Rodriguez and President Davalos

On motion of Commissioner Mummey, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Lewis that the wording reflect that the policy is in accordance with the County Code, the Commission approved the following wording for the condolence policy, Item 7 in the Commission's Trust Fund Criteria:

7. The Commission established a policy to send flowers and other expressions of sympathy up to \$100 to a commissioner or Commission staff upon his or her own hospitalization or upon the death of a family member as defined in the Los Angeles County Code. Specifically, the death of a father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother, sister, husband, wife, child, stepchild, grandfather, grandmother, grandchild or domestic partner would qualify for this amount. This policy also provides condolences up to \$100 for family members or domestic partners in the event of the death of a commissioner or commission staff.

TABLE DISCUSSION ON FEASIBILITY OF HOSTING 2005 ACCW CONVENTION

President Davalos indicated she is awaiting additional information on this item and recommended tabling it.

On motion of Commissioner Jernigan, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez, and unanimously carried, the Commission tabled discussion on the feasibility of hosting the 2005 ACCW Convention.

APPROVE LETTER ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORT TO SEND TO COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

Commissioner Rodriguez reviewed additional revisions to the letter to county departments concerning recommendations made to them in 1994 on domestic violence.

On motion of Commissioner Mummey, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the letter with revisions to county departments concerning implementation of the domestic violence recommendations.

Commissioners then requested staff to invite the Sheriff's Department to update the Commission on the early release of violent offenders from jail.

APPROVAL OF AWARDEES FOR THE 20TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS LUNCHEON

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Perkins, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the 11 awardees submitted for Women of the Year.

PURCHASE TICKETS TO WOMEN'S APPOINTMENT COLLABORATION RECEPTION

Staff announced that Commissioner Gravely would be one of the honorees at the reception welcoming new Commissioners.

On motion of Commissioner Lewis, seconded Commissioner Perkins, and duly carried, with Commissioner Mummey opposing, the Commissioner approved \$150 for three Commissioners to attend the Women's Appointment Collaboration Reception on January 27, 2005. Commissioners Lewis, Perkins and Rodriguez expressed interest in attending.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting at 11:14 a.m.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee: Commissioner Creary provided copies of the Board of Supervisors action on January 11, 2005 concerning the County Health Authority Blue Print. She also announced that Ellen Eidem, Acting Director of the Office of Women's Health, would address the Commission at its March 28, 2005 meeting. The next Health Committee meeting would be February 28, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee: Commissioner Rodriguez reported that the subcommittee met this morning and noted that the letter to the departments would be

sent out February 1, 2005 with a requested response by March 15, 2005. She announced the next subcommittee meeting would be March 28, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner Jernigan reported on the close election race of new Washington State Governor Christine Gregoire. She also reported on Assembly Bill AB 59, concerning domestic violence in the presence of minors, and encouraged Commissioners to be involved in the committee's work.

Media/Public Relations Committee: There was no report.

Older Women's Issues Committee: Commissioner Mummey reported on an upcoming meeting about the Older Women's Conference.

Education Subcommittee: Commissioner Becerra-Jones reported on activities at the 5K scholarship reception and on a meeting with a bank executive. She also requested staff to ask County Counsel about the legality of ethnicity and race being indicated on the scholarship application and in the scholarship criteria. Commissioners agreed to refer the issue to the Education Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Perkins announced she attended a dinner hosted by the Southern Christian Leadership, that she received a scholarship from California Women's Leadership, and that Bobbie Becker of the Metropolitan Water District received a career promotion. She suggested sending a congratulatory letter to Ms. Becker.

Commissioner Becerra-Jones announced a conference on diabetes on March 3-4, 2005.

Commissioner Jernigan attended the closing of the Boeing Commercial Line, the scholarship reception and a Jenesse Center reception.

Commissioner Duba is working on a 5K event in the Antelope Valley to benefit domestic violence survivors.

Commissioner Mummey recommended reading the *Sweatshop Watch* newsletters.

Commissioner Creary attended the scholarship reception and spoke on the Jenesse Center's loss of some government funding.

Commissioner Gravely announced a Black Women, Inc. event.

UPDATE ON THE AWARDS LUNCHEON COMMITTEE

Nyla Jefferson, Executive Office, reported on sponsorship, invitation and the tasting luncheon.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA

Commissioner Jernigan asked that a request from the Second District on sponsorship of an Aquatic Foundation event in June be placed on the agenda.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m. in the memory of Jane't Broadous, who died of vaginal cancer at the age of 26.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Karin Davalos, President
Reiko Duba, Treasurer
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Ruth Creary, PhD
Wadie Gravely
Ruth Jernigan
Bonnie Lewis
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Barbara Perkins
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Charlotte Lesser, Vice President

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Executive Office Staff: Khanh Nguyen, Steve Erickson, Nyla Jefferson, Gabriel Alexander.

GUEST

Rone Ellis